

I did not know Shirley & George's
addresses & I know, if necessary,
you would send mine on to them.

Come & have tea with us
^{men}

Larned
Christmas Day.

My dear Ted,

You certainly have been very much in
my thoughts all day - & Rube kept the diners
back a little, as we thought you might come down.
However we were disappointed, I don't mind as long as
George & Shirley got down. Well - by your last letter you
were pretty uncertain - This has, at least, been
a Peaceful day here - The only noise is the traffic on
the road - Just what to say to you, I don't know,
whatever did you spend all that money on us. Of
course I know that Hance had a hand in our
big Christmas Box. We were just about to sit
down to tea last night. When we heard the grocer
call out - he was told to come in, & then he began
to unpack a Carton. At first I thought Rube had ordered
the goods. We looked at each other - then Mr. Lowe
turned to me, & said, This is a Times Box from your
son. He wrote & asked me to deliver this to you
this evening. Of course all we could do was to thank
him for delivering them to us. How certainly Ted it's
a lovely gift, but the lovely box of biscuits would have
been enough - or the ham - then all the nuts
What to say I don't know. Rube had cooked a nice

2

of pickled pork, & we had that with a really
fresh-rate Chook - three vegetables - & a good
plum pudding & Sauce - with your nuts to
follow. Thank you very much indeed Fred, We
will have to keep the ham till we have visitors. It's
too much for we three - One blessing the biscuits &
ham will keep. So would the nuts if left alone.

I suppose the weather is cool with you, as it is with
us. Very different - to last year though, for the rain
never ceased all day. I am scribbling this sitting
on the Verandah. - No doubt your news from Nance
was about the same as we got; her poor Mum seems
very miserable - It will be pretty dreary for Nance
while Hazel & the children are away, but no doubt -
Hazel needs a break for a few days. - What with the
way she visits Miss Gorn at the Hospital, things are
pretty hard for her. There is one thing Fred, Nance
very much appreciates your making it possible for
her to go to her Mother & Sisters. It is going to be
pretty hard for Nance to leave them I am afraid.
It's really sad, for Hanna Gorn is only young compared
with me. - Lovie came down for a little while on
Wednesday, & her Mother does not seem to improve much.
Glad to say Ada is about again. But the Dr warned

Lionel that - his wife would have to slow up.
 Louie is very happy about the little baby boy in
 Betty & Bob's home.

We had a big array of parcels on the table,
 this morning. Shopping must have been a big
 problem this year. Ruben said it was almost
 impossible to get served in the Cliff. But the
 naughty girl bought me a very nice house frock
 & I was so glad it did not need any alterations.
 Mrs Braden came over during the morning, with nice
 little gifts for us. - I am sorry if I made a mistake
 when telling you about the ad, or some such thing
 that came through the Post addressed to you. Oh
 no there was no dried fruit. Had there been I would
 have sent it on to you. - No wonder the Postal people
 say it was a huge Christmas Mail this year - when
 we here, have got so many cards & letters. We have
 not counted them yet, but I don't think we ever
 had so many. That reminds me, I hope I did thank
 you for mine. Now I think of it, I fancy I did.

When Nancy wrote to me, she said the 'Plane trip
 was pretty good till the last 1/2 hour, so it's just as
 well, the journey was no longer. It is really wonderful I
 think to go all that way in such a short time.

⁴⁴ Wonder if you did get a letter from me yesterday. If not, I suppose you will get one delivery tomorrow. I suppose Uncle Bob has been having a great time today, with Phil & Will. I hope he returns home safely. Yes indeed I think Gwen would be better off, if she & her Father could arrange to have a home between them. Of course I would never suggest such a thing to Gwen. It's hard to say why Uncle thought Gwen was sick again. I could not even send a Card to Lois, as have no idea of her address. I just wish I could find out if you are alone. I do hope George got the leave he expected. — I know it's a long drag down here for you, but if you feel like a lonely trip, well just pop in & say, Well here I am.

I hope the King Street family will have a nice time. I had a letter from Hazel & she told me that she & the boys had hired a L.V. set for a month she said it would be company for the boys & they expected to see a couple of the Crickethursts; rather a good idea I should think.

I must try & post to Mance soon. I suppose I am well have a great time, down on the Farm.

Now will you please accept very many thanks for your lovely gift. — Good bye my boy. I hope something has happened to give you company.

From your loving Mother